

REMARKS

Claims 1-24 remain in this application. Claims 1 and 13 are currently being amended. Claims 25-36 have been canceled without prejudice to presentation in a divisional or continuation application. The amendments to the claims have been made to further prosecution.

Support for amended claims 1 and 13 can be found in the specification and claims as originally filed and at least at page 2, lines 8-27 and page 20, lines 7-17. No new matter has been added.

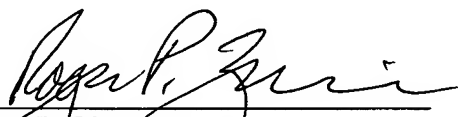
Claims 1-36 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nawrocki et al. taken with Cramer et al. and Schmid et al. It is believed that this rejection is moot in view of the present amendment; withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

In view of the amendments and remarks, it is believed that all claims are in condition for allowance, and it is respectfully requested that the application be passed to issue. If the Examiner feels that a telephone call would expedite the prosecution of this case, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at (508) 416-2433.

Respectfully submitted,

BOWDITCH & DEWEY, LLP

By 
Roger P. Zimmerman
Date: November 29, 2004
Registration No.: 38,670
Direct tel.: (508) 416-2433
Telephone: (508) 879-5700
Facsimile: (508) 929-3073

Bowditch & Dewey, LLP
161 Worcester Road
P.O. Box 9320
Framingham, Massachusetts 01701-9320